

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend Paragraph [0001] of the specification as follows:

[0001] ~~This application claims the benefit of the filing date of United States Provisional Patent Application. The present application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/282,356 (filed Oct. October 29, 2002) entitled "Instrumentation and Methods for use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", now U.S. Pat. 7,169,182 ("the '356 application182 patent") and a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. U.S. Patent Application 10/309,585 (filed Dec. December 4, 2002) entitled "Static Trials and Related Instruments and Methods for use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", now U.S. Pat. 7,115,132 ("the '585 application132 patent") and a continuation-application-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/425,267 (filed Apr. April 29, 2003) entitled "Wedge Plate Inserter/Impactor and Related Methods for use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc" ("the '267 application"). The '356 application is a continuing application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/256,160 (filed Sep., now U.S. Pat. 7,235,081 ("the '081 patent"). Both the '132 patent and the '081 patent are continuation-in-part applications of 10/282,356 (filed October 29, 2002) entitled "Instrumentation and Methods for use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", now U.S. Pat. 7,169,182 ("the '182 patent") which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application 10/256,160 (filed Sept. September 26, 2002) entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post" ("the '160 application"), which is a parent application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/642,528 (filed Aug. 15,~~

2003) entitled "Axially Compressible Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post" ("the '528 application") and a, now U.S. Pat. 6,989,032 ("the '032 patent"), which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/175,417 (filed Jun. June 19, 2002) entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Utilizing a Ball Joint Coupling", which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/151,280 (filed May 20, 2002) entitled "Tension Bearing Artificial Disc Providing a Centroid of Motion Centrally Located Within an Intervertebral Space", which is a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 09/970,479 (filed Oct. October 4, 2001) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves", now U.S. Pat. 6,669,730 ("the '730 patent"), as well as U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/140,153 (filed May 7, 2002) entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element", the former being a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 09/968,046 (filed Oct. October 1, 2001) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves" and the latter being a ~~continuing~~continuation-in-part application of both U.S. (the '730 patent application Ser. No. 09/970,479) (detailed above) as well as U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 10/128,619 (filed Apr. April 23, 2002) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element", now U.S. Pat. 6,863,689 ("the '689 patent") which is a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 09/906,119 (filed Jul. July 16, 2001) and entitled "Trial

Intervertebral Distraction Spacers", now U.S. Pat. 6,607,559 ("the '559 patent) as well as U.S. patent application Ser. No. Patent Application 09/982,148 (filed Oct. October 18, 2001) and entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Having Arch Shaped Spring Elements", now U.S. Pat. 6,673,113 ("the '113 patent"). All of the above mentioned applications are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their respective entireties.